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WEEKEND EDITION APRIL 24-25, 2021

Sunday's weather **62 | 41** 



Seeking sports stringers

Do you have a passion for writing, photography and local sports? The Wabash Plain Dealer is now accepting applications for paid stringers for the upcoming spring sports season. To apply, email your writing and photography clips, cover letter, resume and list of references to rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

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To reduce risks to our employees and community, the Wabash Plain Dealer is closed to the public until further notice. Payments may be mailed to Wabash Plain Dealer, P.O. Box 309, Marion, IN 46952, or called in. For news, call 260-225-4662 or email news@wabashplaindealer.com. For advertising, call 260-225-4947 or email vwilliams@h-ponline.com. For circulation and customer support, call 260-563-2131. The Wabash Plain Dealer is committed to providing the best product to its customers and appreciates the support during this time. For more local news content, please visit wabashplaindealer.com where you will find all of the news that could not fit into today's edition. Get your news faster by activating your online account which is included in your print subscription rates. Our stories appear online in an easy-to-read format as they are completed. Thank you for your support through this pandemic.

Indiana 114 closed for railroad work in North Manchester

Norfolk Southern is conducting the work between Beckley Street and Wabash Street in North Manchester. Motorists should use the posted detour of Indiana 13, Indiana 16 and Indiana 105. Work was expected to start on or after Monday, April 19 and will last for approximately five days.

Wabash Art Guild Members' Art Show returns for 2021

The 61st annual Wabash Art Guild 2021 Members' Art Show will be on display through Sunday, April 25 at the Clark Gallery at the Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St. There will be free admission available for the Clark Gallery during these dates from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. The group is also interested in inviting new members who would like to contribute to their works. For more information, call 260-563-7690.

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COVID-19 testing site at Parkview Wabash to close next week

ISDH, hospital, city had been running facility since Dec. 15, 2020

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Those looking to for a free COVID-19 testing site will have to look elsewhere as a local facility that has been open for several months is set

to close next week.

Since Dec. 15, 2020, OptumServe has been administering a free state COVID testing site at Parkview Wabash Hospital in a partnership between the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), the hospital and the city of Wabash, said Parkview Health community and media relations specialist Leslie Megison on Friday.

Megison said the ISDH had informed the hospital that the

site will be closing on Friday, April 30.

That means for one more week, OptumServe will administer free COVID-19 testing from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday at Parkview Wabash Hospital. Testing will take place at 8 John Kissinger Drive in the first-floor conference room of the Medical Office Building (MOB) adjoining Parkview Wabash Hospital. Testing site patrons should not use

the MOB entrance or enter through the hospital, but instead, enter and exit through the designated entrance between the two buildings. Signage will mark the appropriate entrance, which is within a few steps of the conference room and testing site.

Megison said "my understanding is that folks can still schedule appointments between now and Friday, April 30" by calling 888-634-1116 or visiting <https://lhi.care/>

covidtesting.

"We received a request from the hospital to close the site. After taking into consideration that there are alternative sites available in Wabash County, we agreed to close the Parkview Hospital site at the end of this month," said ISDH media relations coordinator Megan Wade-Taxter on Friday.

The news about the testing

See **TESTING**, page A12

A busy spring for the WACT continues



Photos provided

Director Brett Robinson laughs at a scene from Rick Abbot's "Play On!" at a recent WACT rehearsal.

Comedy performances set for next weekend; fall musical auditions planned for May

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

The past few months for the Wabash Area Community Theater (WACT) have been quite busy, and that level of excitement seems set to continue for the foreseeable future.

Earlier this month, "after the success of its Valentine's Day weekend dinnertainment event, 'Love Letters,'" the WACT announced it will be putting on yet another spring production this season, said WACT Board vice president and committee chairman Eric Seaman.

"Love Letters" was Robinson's directorial debut after having been featured in several recent WACT productions as an actor, including Felix Unger in the 2019 spring production of "The Odd Couple," the King in the fall 2018 musical "Once Upon a Mattress" and more.

"For the second time this year, Brett Robinson will direct a WACT production as Rick Abbot's classic comedy 'Play On!' will



Samantha DeTurk, left, and Madison Waldon go over a scene.

take place" at 7 p.m. Friday, April 30, and Saturday, May 1, as well as a 2 p.m. matinee performance on Sunday, May 2 at Northfield Jr./Sr. High School, 154 W.

200 North.

"'Play On!' features a cast of characters who themselves portray a cast of characters," said Seaman. "In this comedy, a theater

group tries desperately to put on a play, 'Murder Most Foul,' despite maddening interference from a haughty

See **WACT**, page A3

Commissioners approve new coroner building exhaust system

MC Contracting approved for \$2,450 to complete work within 60 days

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

The Wabash County Coroner's Office building will soon have a much-needed new exhaust system.

"It's something that really needs to be done," said Wabash County Coroner Ken Brown at Monday's Wabash County Board of Commissioners meeting.

Brown presented the request for the building at 443 McCarty St. as "the one thing it could really use."

Brown said he had asked for quotes from four different companies, before narrowing it down to Quality

Electric in Wabash and MC Contracting in Peru.

Brown said MC Contracting had also retrofitted the Miami County's Coroner's Office and completed additional work later.

Brown said the quotes were fairly close between the two companies, except for the design differences.

Brown said Quality Electric's plan was to vent out of the side of the building.

Brown said given the fact that there was a Beacon Credit Union location on one side of the building and car wash on the other, he had concerns with this placement.

Brown said MC Contracting wanted to go through ceiling of examination area but then run a pipe out the back of the building and up next to the roof, "which would probably not be a

bad idea."

Brown asked the Commissioners for a completion date to make sure it was done in a timely fashion.

The Commissioners then voted unanimously to award \$2,450 for the job to MC Contracting to be completed within 60 days.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

See **MASKS**, page A3

Alpha Zeta Chapter of DKG Society International holds March meeting

The next meeting will be done virtually on Saturday, May 1

STAFF REPORT

The virtual meeting of the Alpha Zeta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG), a women's educators' society, was opened by President Sue Corbin on at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 13, according to Nancy Kolb.

Corbin welcomed 20 participants with chapter members from Grant, Huntington, Wabash and Whitley counties, and guests Jo Drudge, the state liaison; JoAnn Manes the program presenter; and McKinley Adams, recipient of the Alpha Zeta Esther Mae Ashley Memorial Scholarship for 2021.

Karen Kinney gave the opening thought which centered around her senior class motto: "It is a rough road that leads to the height of greatness."

"It was very fitting for the present times," said Kinney.

Barb Buroker gave the invocation in the form of several Irish blessings.

Donna Ott, Scholarship chairman introduced McKinley Adams, a graduate of Carroll High School, who is pursuing a degree from Manchester University in secondary education, majoring in history. He shared his entry essay and the extra-curricular activities in which he participates.

The program for the meeting was a presentation of Schools for Africa by Jo Ann Manes.

Schools for Africa was the first Delta Kappa Gamma official international project. DKG partners with UNICEF, Nelson Mandela Foundation and others. Through these organizations over 30 million children have been helped to achieve their dream of having an education.

In the business portion of the meeting, chapter member Lori Heuer was recognized for receiving The 2021 IMPACT Career Development Professional of the Year Award which she received from the Indiana Chamber of Commerce for developing high-quality internship programs for students in high school and college. She is the Talent Development Director for Whitley County Consolidated Schools.

November minutes were corrected and the January minutes were approved. The treasurer's report was accepted as printed and filed for review. It was noted that dues will be collected at the May meeting.

Mary Lou Fries, Chairperson of the International Projects Committee, at the May meeting, will be overseeing monetary donations to Schools for Africa and to the Emergency Fund which provides natural disaster relief to DKG members.

Ann Ambler, Music Chairman took us down memory lane with several songs to familiar tunes.

Karen Kinney, Chairperson of the Personal Growth Committee read a book called "Should I Share My Ice Cream?" and presented

information about a project called Stay Connected to stay in touch with members that have not been able to attend the meetings during the pandemic.

The Professional Affairs Committee will present three Grants-in-Aid in May.

Members are encouraged to continue reading stories to add to the Virtual Library Project, as a support to teachers and students.

The DKG Indiana State Convention has been rescheduled for June 12. It will be a one-day event at the Primo Event Center in Indianapolis. Each chapter is asked to provide a silent auction basket with proceeds going to the Emergency Fund.

The International Regional Conferences will be from Wednesday, July 7 through Saturday, July 10 in Portland, Oregon; and from Wednesday, July 21 to Saturday, July 24 in San Antonio, Texas.

The Fall Arts Retreat will be held Saturday, Nov. 13 in Noblesville.

Carol Herzog shared the closing thought titled "The Best Day of My Life."


The hostess committee of Jadean Barnes, Karen Kinney, Carol Herzog, Barb Buroker and Samantha Sutorius was thanked.

The next meeting will be done virtually on Zoom at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 1.

The meeting closed with the group singing the Delta Kappa Gamma Song along with a virtual choir from Ohio.

Kolb was the member attending from Wabash County.


5-Day Weather Summary



Saturday

Showers Likely


58 / 43



Sunday

Partly Cloudy


62 / 41



Monday

Mostly Sunny


73 / 55



Tuesday

Partly Cloudy

81 / 62




Wednesday

Few Showers

77 / 59


Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 8:30 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 6:51 a.m.




Full

4/26




Last

5/3



New

5/11



First

5/19

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see cloudy skies with an 80% chance of showers, high temperature of 58°, humidity of 66%. East southeast wind 3 to 9 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with an 85% chance of showers, overnight low of 43°. West wind 2 to 7 mph. Sunday, skies will be partly cloudy, high of 62°, humidity of 49%.

Weed Wrangle at Mississinewa Lake planned for May 1

STAFF REPORT

Volunteers are invited to gain hands-on Weed Wrangle experience beginning at 10 a.m. until noon Saturday, May 1 at the Blue Heron Trailhead located in Mississinewa's Miami State Recreation Area, 4673 S. 625 East, Peru, according to interpretive naturalist Teresa Rody.

"Did you know the North American wild bird popu-

lation has lost 2.9 million birds since 1970? Did you know native plants directly tie into their survival? This is one reason we wrangle invasive weeds," said Rody.

Rody said participants should dress for the weather "and Mother Nature's surprises."

"Wear suitable clothing, boots and shoes, sunscreen, hats and bug spray. Most tools are provided. If you have a favorite pair of hand

tools, feel free to use your own. No chainsaws. We'll be removing unwanted invasive species," said Rody.

Rody said in compliance with the Back on Track Indiana Plan, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) social distancing guidelines and use of face coverings if indoors or closer than 6 feet will be practiced.

Advance registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127.

Prince Philip and his search for his orthodox roots

The first nun the Bolsheviks threw into the abandoned mineshaft was best known as the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, the sister of the Russian Empress Alexandra.

After the 1905 assassination of her Grand Duke husband, Elizabeth became an Orthodox nun, giving away her wealth to build hospitals and orphanages. She was executed in 1918, along with others linked to her doomed brother-in-law, Tsar Nicholas II.

When the nuns didn't drown, a soldier used a grenade. He later testified, "we heard talking and a barely audible groan. I threw another grenade. And what do you think – from beneath the ground we heard singing! ... They were singing the prayer: 'Lord, save your people!'"

Finally, there was silence. The body of St. Elizabeth the New Martyr was buried in 1920 at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. Her life inspired many, including her grieving niece, the Greek Princess Alice of Battenberg. Alice was the great-granddaughter of Queen Victoria of England and the mother of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and for 73 years the husband of Queen Elizabeth II.

The complicated history of the royals, past and present, loomed over the short, dignified funeral for Prince Philip in St. George's Chapel, Windsor – with only 30 mourners due to COVID-19 restrictions. The prince's liturgical choices shaped an Anglican

rite that stressed images of service, eternal hope and the beauties of God's creation.

The man many Brits called the "grandfather of the nation" was born on the Greek island of Corfu in 1921, the fifth child and only son of Prince Andrew of Greece and Princess Alice. He was baptized Greek Orthodox, before his life was rocked by wars and revolutions that shattered his family.

The young Prince Philip ended up in England, his father landed in Monte Carlo with his mistress, and his mother, inspired by her martyred Russian aunt, became a fervent Orthodox believer. Citing her claims of visions and the gift of healing, her family forced her into mental asylums. One doctor – Sigmund Freud – ordered her sterilized.

Eventually Princess Alice returned to Greece and, as a self-proclaimed Orthodox nun, donated what wealth she had to feed the poor during Nazi occupation. She secretly protected Jews and was eventually honored by Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust center.

It's a complicated story. During yet another Greek revolution, Alice escaped to England. She had been born in Buckingham Palace and she died there in 1969, after two years with her son, along with Prince Charles and her other grandchildren. She is buried, as she requested, in the Mount of Olives church near St. Elizabeth the New Martyr.

There is evidence that, late in life, Prince Philip began a private journey to explore his roots, including visits to Mount Athos, the rocky Greek peninsula that is the heart of global Orthodox monasticism.

Observers noted that when making the sign of the cross, he gestured in an Orthodox manner – from right to left.

During a 2011 visit to Buckingham Palace, Metropolitan Hilarion of Russia gave Philip an icon of St. Elizabeth, his martyred great-aunt. In a condolence letter to Queen Elizabeth, he said Philip "told me literally the following: 'I became an Anglican, but I remained Orthodox.' ... With great warmth, he recalled his visits to the Holy Mount Athos. He told me about his Orthodox roots."

Prince Charles also has frequented Mount Athos. One Athonite monk told The Guardian newspaper that there is "no question" that Charles is "Orthodox in his heart. Sadly, he is very constrained by his position." The Prince of Wales has maintained ties to the Vatopedi Monastery and, like his father, to the Friends of Mount Athos.

There was one clear sign of this complex heritage during the funeral. Prince Philip had requested that, just before his body was lowered into the Royal Vault, the choir sing the famous Kiev setting of the Orthodox Kontakion of the Departed.

"Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints: where sorrow and pain are no more; neither sighing but life everlasting," the singers chanted. "Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of man; and we are mortal formed from the dust of the earth. ... All we go down to the dust; and weeping o'er the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia."

Terry Mattingly leads *GetReligion.org* and *lives in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He is a senior fellow at the Overby Center at the University of Mississippi.*

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Obituaries

Alice Imogene Barton

Feb. 25, 1929 – April 21, 2021

Alice Imogene Barton, 92, of Yorktown, Indiana, formerly of Wabash, Indiana, died 3:15 pm, Wednesday, April 21, 2021, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie. She was born on Feb. 25, 1929, in Wabash, Indiana, in her home to Clarence and Irene (Pressler) Pries.

Imogene was a 1947 graduate of Somerset High School where she played the drums in band. She married James “Jim” Richard Barton on Oct. 25, 1947, in Wabash; he died Oct. 23, 1996. Imogene worked as a nurse’s aide, farmer’s wife, and most importantly a homemaker. She was the oldest living member of College Corner First Brethren Church. Imogene was an amazing seamstress. Not only did she make her own clothing, she also completed the assembly of hundred of dolls and their accompanying fancy dresses. One of Imogene’s favorite passions was building and decorating doll houses. All 21 doll houses are fully furnished, including electricity. Imogene was also known for being an outstanding cook. She was best known for her custard, coconut cream pies and cinnamon rolls. On the farm that she lived on from 1949 until 2017, she raised chickens, gardened, and canned most of her own food. For 68 years, she was able to care for herself until her final days.

She is survived by three children, Steve (Beverly) Barton of Wabash, Dana (Cynthia) Barton of Scotts-



dale, Arizona, and Dr. Vickie Barton of Yorktown, six grandchildren, Benjamin James “BJ” Barton of Scottsdale, AZ, Ashley Elizabeth Barton of Wayne, Pennsylvania, Matthew Barton of Wabash, Jamie Barton of Wesley Chapel, Florida, Robert Barton of Austin, Texas, and Angela Barton of Anniston, Alabama, six great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren, and her brother, Richard Pries of Wabash. She was also preceded in death by her parents, and great-grandson, Andrew Barton.

Funeral services will be 3 pm, Sunday, April 25, 2021, at College Corner Brethren Church, 8996 S. 500 W., Wabash, with David Phillips officiating. Burial will be in Friends Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call from 1 pm until the service Sunday, at the church. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash.

The memorial guest book for Alice may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Billie Eyre Sarll

Nov. 19, 1930 – April 20, 2021

Billie Eyre Sarll, 90, of Akron, Indiana, died 9:49 a.m., Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at Parkview Wabash Hospital in Wabash, Indiana. She was born on Nov. 19, 1930, in Terre Haute, Indiana, to Floyd and Jane (Bunning) Jacks.

Billie married Jack Sarll in New Holland, Indiana on Sept. 2, 1949; he died July 29, 2000. She was a homemaker and also was kitchen help at Tippecanoe Valley Middle School in Akron. She was a member of the Wabash Church of Christ. Billie enjoyed gardening, canning, and burn piles.

She is survived by five children, James (Sherry) Sarll of Wabash, Jack (Shirley) Sarll of New Haven, Indiana, Cheryl (Robert) Simons of Akron, Indiana, David (Shirley) Sarll, and Deborah Sarll, both of Wabash,



11 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, sister, Bonnie (Truman) Stevens, and brother, Donald Jacks, both of Marion, Indiana. She was preceded in death by her parents, six brothers and sisters, and one grandchild.

Memorial service will be 11 am, Saturday, April 24, 2021, at Wabash Church of Christ, 1904 N. Wabash Street, Wabash, with Evangelist Josh Fennell officiating. Friends may call one hour prior at the church. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash.

Preferred memorials are Wabash Church of Christ or the Salvation Army.

The memorial guest book for Billie may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Brenda L. (Jackson) Brown

Nov. 19, 1946 – April 20, 2021

Brenda L. (Jackson) Brown, 74, of Peru, passed away peacefully at 4:36am on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at home surrounded by her husband and children.

She was born in Peru, Indiana on Nov. 19, 1946 to Raymond and Frances (Johnson) Jackson. She was a graduate of Southwood High School. Brenda married Sam E. Brown on May 3, 1975. She retired from Rent-a-Trailer in 2020 as an office manager for over 20 years. She loved spending time with her grandchildren while attending their activities and sports.

She is survived by her husband, Sam, Peru; two sons, Jason (Sarah) Brown, LaPorte and Justin (Autumn) Brown, Indianapolis; a daughter, Kari (Zach) Whann, Peru; two step-sons, Bill Brown, Paoli and Ray (Sheila) Brown, Bloomington; eight grandchildren: Allison, Madelyn, and Makenzie Brown; Maddux and Myla Brown; and Kaci, Kody, and Kamren Whann; seven step-grandchildren: Oliva (Simon) Alfrey; Noah (Shelby) Greer; Kirsta (Cody) Davis; Alexys Tittle; Corbin Brown; Dakota Brown; and Katrina Brown; one step-great grandchild, Calvin Alfrey; a brother, Eddie (Kathy) Jackson, Florida;



and many nieces and nephews.

Along with her parents, Brenda is preceded in death by a sister, Treva Fagan.

A visitation will be held at Flowers-Leedy Allen Funeral Home at 105 West Third Street, Peru on Sunday, April 25, 2021. Visitation will be held from 11am – 2pm with funeral services beginning at 2pm, with Pastor Jeff Tinney officiating. Burial will take place at Mount Hope Cemetery in Peru, Indiana.

Memorial contributions can be made to the American Cancer Society.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Flowers-Leedy Funeral Home. Family and friends may sign the online guestbook at www.FlowersLeedyAllen.com.

Linda Utter

Dec. 23, 1949 – April 19, 2021

Linda Utter, 71, North Manchester, died April 19, 2021. She was born Dec. 23, 1949 in Fulton County, Indiana.

Linda is survived by daughters, Dawn (Matthew) Harding and Kristie Utter; brothers, James Bucher, Thomas (Shirley) Bucher and Elbie (Robin) Bucher; sister, Myra Wade; grandchildren, Shayla Reed, Dwight France, Bry-

on Moore, Sadie and Curtis Harding.

Visitation Friday, April 23, 2021 from 2 to 4 and 5 to 7 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 S.R. 114 West, North Manchester. Funeral services are Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 10 a.m. with calling at 9 at McKee Mortuary.

Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

Patrick ‘Pat’ Jay O’Hara

Patrick “Pat” Jay O’Hara began his journey into Heaven surrounded by family on April 21, 2021 after a lengthy illness due to complications of COVID.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 26, 2021 at McDonald Funeral Homes, 231 Falls Avenue, Wabash, Indiana 46992 with

Pastor Kelly Beutler officiating. Burial will follow at Oaklawn Cemetery in North Manchester.

Visitation for family and friends will be from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 25, 2021, at the funeral home.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com.

Marilyn M. Shaver

Obit dateline

Marilyn M. Shaver, 83, North Manchester, Indiana, passed away April 20, 2021 at Peabody Healthcare Center in North Manchester.

The loving memory of Marilyn M. Shaver will be forever cherished by her sister, Elaine Shaver, Highland Park, Illinois; many nieces

and nephews; and all of her former students, colleagues, and those she helped as a nurse.

At the final request of Marilyn, no services will be held.

The family of Marilyn M. Shaver has entrusted McKee Mortuary with final arrangements

MASKS

From page A1

Meanwhile, Mayor Scott Long said on Monday, April 6 that he supported Holcomb’s decision, but that caution was still warranted. On the same day, local hospitals including Parkview Health and Lutheran Health Network said they would continue to require masks in their facilities, despite the lifting of the mandate.

Also on Monday, April 6, Manchester University assistant director of media relations Anne Gregory said they would continue to require masks at both their North Manchester and Fort Wayne campuses.

During a special meeting on Tuesday, April 13, North Manchester Town Council president Alan Miracle presented an item to make masks mandatory for employees in the town building.

District 3 councilmember Tom Dale said he was in support and he didn’t

“think it’s going to hurt anything to continue that.”

“We don’t want to turn into Michigan,” said Dale. “They’ve got an explosion of COVID cases up there right now. With these new variants, I’m not sure if the vaccine is going to help us with some of them. We don’t know yet.”

Before the council voted unanimously in favor of the measure, Miracle said they would continue to follow Wabash County’s lead on the matter, and follow the extension of their mask mandate to at least Monday, May 10.

On Friday, April 9, North Manchester Public Library (NMPL) Director Diane Randall said they would also continue their mask requirements.

“The right thing for the library to do, at this time, is to continue to utilize the social distancing practices, increased sanitation measures, and the required mask-wearing protocols that we have currently in place,” said Randall. “We are on the right path but it

is too early to throw out the increased safety measures we have been utilizing and that have been successful. We miss the library of a year ago just as you do, and we look forward to gradually lessening these measures with time. We ask for your help and support in respectfully honoring our safety measures as we continue forward on the right path.”

During its regular board meeting on Tuesday, April 20, Wabash Carnegie Public Library (WCPL) director Ware Wimberly said they would also be maintaining their mask mandate as a “precautionary” measure.

“We’re not had a lot of problems with people being upset with that,” said Wimberly. “Right now we’re requiring it.”

In a message to patrons, Wimberly said he wanted to “express our gratitude to our community for your incredible support and engagement during the COVID pandemic.”

“We are encouraged to

see numbers going down in our community as more people are being vaccinated. For the time being, we will still be requiring masks to be work in the library building as they have been advised for the safety of our staff and the general public. Curbside service continues to be available upon request,” said Wimberly. “The library building has been open regular hours since Feb. 1 and we have enjoyed serving our patrons in-person again. Along with our physical collection, we encourage you to utilize Libby, Hoopla and our other digital services from home. Activity, storytime and craft kits will continue to be available for pick-up and instructional videos will still be posted on our Facebook page. Programming will continue virtually and in-person outside as we head into the summer.”

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

Democrats, activists call on governor to veto wetlands bill

By CASEY SMITH

Associated Press
/Report for America

INDIANAPOLIS

— Calls are mounting for Gov. Eric Holcomb to veto a bill that would remove some protections from Indiana’s already diminished wetlands amid mounting criticism that it could damage waterways, wildlife and vegetation.

The wetlands measure passed out of the Legislature April 14 and has sparked bipartisan opposition within the Republican-dominated Legislature. If enacted, it would eliminate a 2003 law that requires the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to issue permits for construction and development in state-regulated wetlands and end enforcement proceedings against landowners accused of violating current law.

All Democratic members of the General Assembly, as well as a member of the Senate Republican Caucus, urged the Republican governor to veto the bill in a letter sent Wednesday. Enacting the bill “will

have long term consequences,” they said, urging a “more in-depth study than what was accomplished in limited committee times during a legislative session in a pandemic.”

Bill author Sen. Chris Garten and other sponsors maintain the current law is too vague, and say removal of state protections would help developers and grow the housing market.

Hoosier Environmental Council executive director Jesse Kharbanda said the nonprofit group joined more than a dozen others calling on Holcomb to turn down the bill, warning that it rolls back critical wetlands protections, even though it is less extreme than the original Senate version that would have completely eliminated protections.

Kevin Brinegar, president and CEO of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, conceded that the current regulations are confusing and could be improved, but said this bill isn’t the answer. Brinegar said he asked Holcomb to veto “this potentially very detrimental legislation.”

WACT

From page A1

authoress who keeps revising the script.”

Seaman said the cast and crew include Angelina Funk as Aggie Manville, Mike Barnett as Billy Carewe, Gary Norman as Henry Benish, Todd Dazey as Louie Peary, Sophie Trusty as Maria “Smitty” Smith, Lin Metzger as Phyllis Montague, Samantha DeTurk as Polly Benish, Kevin Funk as Saul Watson, and Madison Waldon as Violet Imbry. The stage manager is Brenden Rowan.

“The basic premise of the show is a community theater is putting on a murder mystery and they are having problems,” said Robinson. “They are clearly not ready. The set isn’t ready, costumes, props, etc. Lines aren’t memorized. It’s a disaster. As you can imagine, everything goes wrong and hilarity ensues. I really think people are going to love it. Some of our actors are so good, I can’t believe it. It’s a blessing to work with them.”

Seaman said Robinson will not only direct but also portray the character Gerry Dunbar.

“We’re excited to provide yet another production for the community to enjoy,” said WACT board president Bev Vanderpool. “This will be Brett’s first production with us as director that includes a larger cast. He did a great job with a small, two-person production back in February and we’re more than optimistic that Brett will do the same with a 10-person cast.”

Tickets will be available at the door for \$10 for adults and \$5 for students in high school or younger.

“This is an extremely funny show,” said Robinson. “I chose this show, in part, because it is an ensemble cast with a few roles that could be performed by either a male or female, which makes it perfect for community theater like WACT. It is also just as entertaining for us performers as it is for the audience.”

In addition to this latest production, the WACT is also planning for the future.

On Tuesday, Seaman said auditions for WACT’s fall musical production, “Sister Act,” will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, May 14, and 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 15, at Wabash Christian Church, 110 W. Hill St. Callbacks, and those who can’t make it to auditions over the

weekend, are scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday, May 17, at the church.

These productions come after the WACT announced last month that after two decades of searching they finally have a place to call home as Vanderpool signed paperwork Thursday, Feb. 25 to obtain the property at 1620 to 1640 S. Wabash St.

Seaman this building will serve as a central location for the organization to not only store its assets but to have a creative space as well.

WACT annually produces at least three or four shows in Wabash, including a fall musical, a straight-play spring comedy and Christmas programming, as well as variety programming and “dinnertainment” opportunities.

Seaman said the newly acquired South Wabash Street property is located near Nancy J’s Fabrics, B-K Root Beer and Kitchens Plus, just south of Shady Lane Drive. Upon the 0.63-acre plot of land are two structures that will be used to house their supplies and “create a legacy of perpetuity for WACT.”

Seaman said in total, the main building on the property features 9,900 square feet of space. The property also features a 1,260-square-foot pole frame building, as well as a large parking lot.

Seaman said at this time, there aren’t any plans for WACT to create a performing arts center on the property due to existing amenities in the area.

Seaman said those who would like to support the project can do so by sending a check to Wabash Area Community Theater at P.O. Box 840, Wabash, IN 46992, with “Building” in the memo line. For those who would like to give online, a GoFundMe page titled “WACT Building Fundraiser” has also been created for the project. It can be found on the Wabash Area Community Theater Facebook page or by searching on www.gofundme.com.

Those who are interested in making a gift, but would like more information, may contact Vanderpool by email at vanderpob@yahoo.com or call 765-661-8206; or contact Board Member Beth Miller by email at beth@wabashmillers.com or by calling 260-568-1128.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact
your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
[http://young.senate.gov/
contact](http://young.senate.gov/contact)

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
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Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18
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Indianapolis, IN 46204
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To email any
Indiana lawmaker,
go to this website:
[www.in.gov/cgi-bin/
legislative/contact/
contact.pl](http://www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl)

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainedealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Hebrews 2:18

The Biden administration must deal better with migrant children

There is no doubt that President Biden inherited a bureaucratic and humanitarian nightmare at the U.S.-Mexico border. And there is little doubt that how his young administration handles this crisis – and it is a crisis, even if White House image managers balk at calling it so – will help define his presidency, if for no other reason than his Republican critics will make sure it does.

Xavier Becerra, the former California congressman and attorney general and current secretary of Health and Human Services, is right in the middle of it, though you'd hardly realize it given his low public profile since taking the job a month ago. His agency is responsible for caring for unaccompanied minors taken into custody by Border Patrol agents and placing them with relatives or caregivers.

The knives may already be out for the new HHS chief. Critics complain that unaccompanied minors, whose ranks are growing fast, are spending too long in federal custody and not being connected quickly enough by HHS to relatives or sponsors in the United States. The Washington Post reported last week that HHS had more than 20,000 minors in its care, and an additional 2,200 were in detention centers waiting to be moved to the agency's shelters.

Politico recently wrote one of those inside-the-Beltway pieces about how White House staffers "have grown increasingly frustrated" with Becerra "over his department's sluggish effort to house thousands of unaccompanied minors" and "complaints he's been slow to take charge of the response since his confirmation on March 18."

Really. After a month. And his tenure began nearly two months

into the Biden presidency, which means the White House has had more time than Becerra to come up with workable solutions. Yet some now seem ready to set up Becerra as the fall guy if the problem worsens and the politics get uglier. We're no apologists for Becerra – although we supported his nomination, we criticized some of his work as AG – but we at least are generous enough to give him time to figure out the job before pinning failures on him.

In truth, the Biden administration so far seems to be reacting to events at the border rather than coming up with the kinds of broad and creative responses the problem needs. Again, it's early, but the issues posed by unaccompanied minors are not new, and even if the Trump administration didn't cooperate significantly in the transition, this is not Biden's first border rodeo. His team should have made crafting border responses a higher priority – especially given the harsh politicization of border policies.

It's especially concerning that Biden has continued one of the Trump administration's more cynical practices. President Trump invoked the rarely used Title 42 powers, which allow the quarantine of foreign travelers suspected of carrying infections, to bar entry by people from countries with high rates of COVID-19, despite murky legal authority to do so (yes, there are legal challenges).

The move also contradicted the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which determined that the quarantine was unnecessary to protect public health. Biden has suspended Title 42 for unaccompanied children (two-thirds of whom are boys between the ages of 15 and 17)

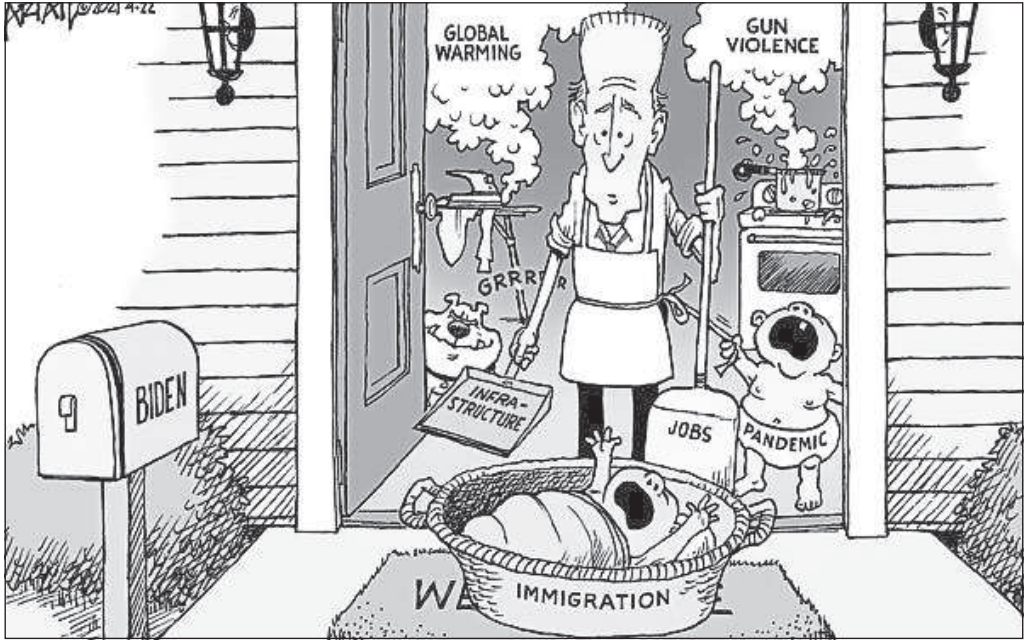
but is still using it to block most families and adult migrants, thousands of whom have been stranded in dangerous squalor just over the border.

Few expected Biden to take the oath and immediately resolve the many problems in the U.S. immigration system. The damage over four years of Trump's wrecking ball was substantial, and some migrants have told journalists that they were emboldened by a change in administrations from one perceived as cruel to one perceived as accommodating.

But in truth most would have come anyway, fleeing home territories controlled by gangs largely outside the reach of corrupt governments, beset by climate change-fed droughts and, most recently, two devastating hurricanes. People flee for valid reasons, and in most cases arrive at the U.S. border hoping to join relatives already here. Biden has asked Vice President Kamala Harris to steer diplomatic efforts to try to address those "push" factors, a daunting but necessary task that also risks making Harris the face of whatever failure might ensue.

Responsibility for border and immigration enforcement falls on an alphabet soup of departments mostly under the Department of Homeland Security. But the children wind up in Becerra's care. HHS needs to get better and faster at processing the arrivals and connecting them with relatives or otherwise finding them homes to live in as their legal requests to remain in the U.S. are processed. At the moment, the nation doesn't have much of a sense that the new boss is doing much better at this than the old boss.

This editorial was first published in the Los Angeles Times.



Our response to Sen. Young's visit to Wabash

By CHAD HARRIS

On Monday, April 5, Sen. Todd Young, R-Indiana, visited our fair city by meeting exclusively with a handful of white, male business owners for an exchange of ideas.

We find it extremely disappointing that a more diverse group was not invited to a meeting that should have included women, people of color, and employees of the gentlemen in attendance. By not having a more diverse group of interested parties at the table, it gives the appearance that they are limiting themselves to a perspective of a very narrow demographic.

In speaking to the group, Sen. Young made several claims about declining start-ups and job creation, which we find dubious.

"So, obviously there's a public policy role in making sure we're helpful in that regard," he said, before applauding regulatory and tax reforms of the last few years.

Indeed. We are curious as to exactly how those reforms translated into more, better-paying jobs and higher standards of living and health for the average citizens of our community – largely the employees of those in Mr. Young's audience. Sure, the stock market continued to rise, even through a once-per-hundred-

year pandemic, but the average Hoosier has very little, if any, investment in a market that does not reflect the true state of our economy.

Sen. Young promoted the Endless Frontiers Act which would include federal investment in "research and development through university systems and national laboratories ... and has a very direct relationship to the future of economic growth and dynamism of America's economy." Again, how does that benefit the people of Wabash County? Ephemeral. Young wants to invest in theory and the military-industrial complex. "... we'll also be able to equip our warfighters," he said.

We believe that Senator Young hasn't been paying attention to most of his constituents. Hoosier workers want to be part of a better-trained workforce, and consumers want protections against the predatory practices of out-of-control capitalism such as seen in for-profit healthcare. What we don't want is an ever-expanding war machine that already exponentially outsizes every other force in the world.

Instead of the stingy funding of K-12 that we've seen for at least 40 years, let's expand investment into public schools. It's quite simple: pay quality teachers quality pay, offer the tools they need in this modern

setting and give students the education that we've promised them to grow productive, tax-paying members of society. Investment in education equals a trained workforce equals an ever-increasing tax base.

On two things we do agree with Sen. Young.

1. Investment is critical; however, let's make sure that investment does not fall short as it too often does. "We need to spend money like it's our own because it is," he said. And he's right. When your home needs repair, wouldn't you rather spend a little extra for the highest quality, instead of having to throw more money into a bad repair again later?

2. Yes, there is "tribalism," but it's important to consider the source and causes of division. It's in the duplicity of "look at what they're doing now."

So, let's take a look. According to reports released by Commerce and Labor Departments on Thursday, retail sales grew by an astonishing 9.8 percent and jobless claims dropped another 193,000 nationally. Putting money into the hands of consumers – thanks to the American Rescue Plan, which Young voted against – appears to have had the effect for which it was designed: real economic stimulus.

Chad Harris is the chair of the Wabash County Democratic Party.

LETTERS

Not all internships are created equal

More students are interning than ever before, and more employers are recognizing that internships help develop their talent pipelines. Logically, if employers want to hire and students want to be hired, then aren't students who complete internships more likely to land a job than those who don't?

It's quite complicated – with devastating results for some.

Data from the National Association of Colleges and Employers shows otherwise. While students who complete paid internships are more likely to find jobs after graduation, students who complete unpaid internships are no more likely to find a job than those who don't intern at all. The same data shows that women are more likely than men to complete unpaid internships and students of color are more likely to complete unpaid internships than white students. Women and students of color are sacrificing now to sacrifice again later.

How do we repair these inequities? All internships need to be paid experiences. This is why Work and Learn Indiana is matching women and students of color to paid internships through our Closing the Internship Gap program. Not only will students gain paid work experience, but employers will also mentor young professionals to fill the growing statewide need for diverse talent.

Closing the Internship Gap will also match women interns with women-owned businesses and students of color with minority-owned businesses. Students can then learn from employers who look like them, which is a high-impact practice needed to grow future leaders. Learn more about Closing the Internship Gap at workandlearnindiana.com.

Mike Slocum
Executive Director, Work and Learn Indiana
(Indiana INTERNnet)
Indianapolis

We all have a 'right' to live in a safe, healthy environment

Spring is here. We often think "fresh air," "new beginnings" and spring cleaning.

I appreciated the city cleaning the street and sidewalk in front of my office on Canal Street a few weeks ago. It generated the thought of warmer weather and new beginnings ahead.

Regardless of how much cleaning we do, it has to be done again, for various reasons. Things naturally get dirty in time. But what makes our streets and sidewalks look even worse, is when we see the litter that is so carelessly left behind. I often pick up paper, discarded paper cups, food wrappers, pop cans and cigarette butts, that are discarded on the sidewalk and street in front of my office. What makes this even worse, is that there is a city trashcan with a cigarette butt receptacle setting outside my office. There would be little to no effort to put the litter in the trashcan and receptacle.

The number one item that litters our streets and sidewalks is cigarette butts. For some reason discarding "butts" on the street and sidewalk seems to be okay, it doesn't matter. Well, it does matter. Many think that cigarette butts are an acceptable type of litter because there is this misconception that cigarette butts will biodegrade. They don't. They are made of a type of plastic, cellulose acetate, which does not degrade well. They set for up to five or more years and release toxic waste. Our streets and parks are heavily cluttered with this costly litter.

One of the best ways to limit the discarded cigarette butts is to limit where people smoke and make everyone aware of how toxic the "butt" is and how harmful it is to our environment. Our parks should be safe places for our families and children.

When a parent approaches me to tell me that they have to be watchful when at the park, because of the possibility of their child picking up a cigarette butt to put in their mouths, saddens me. This has happened more than once.

We can do something about that. We need to do something about that. We have to stop thinking about the "right" to smoke and start thinking about the "right" for a cleaner environment, safer parks and clean air.

I am asking that you pick up the sword to make our parks, communities a safer place to live. We all have a "right" to live in a safe, healthy environment.

This has nothing to do with a person's right to smoke. It has everything to do with the right to have a healthy life that is not exposed by other's choice to smoke around others, do not take pride in our parks, streets, and sidewalks, and just discard their cigarette butts to the ground.

Let us all do what we can to make Wabash and Wabash County a safe, clean place to live. Express your concern to your city and county representatives.

Dan Gray
Director, Wabash County
Tobacco-Free Coalition

HISTORY

Today is Saturday, April 24, the 114th day of 2021. There are 251 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On April 24, 1980, the United States launched an unsuccessful attempt to free the American hostages in Iran, a mission that resulted in the deaths of eight U.S. servicemen.

On this date:

In 1800, Congress approved a bill establishing the Library of Congress.

In 1877, federal troops were ordered out of New Orleans, ending the North's post-Civil War rule in the South.

In 1915, in what's considered the start of the Armenian genocide, the Ottoman Empire began rounding up Armenian political and cultural leaders in Constantinople.

In 1960, rioting erupted in Biloxi, Miss., after Black protesters staging a "wade-in" at a whites-only beach were attacked by a crowd of hostile whites.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director-producer Richard Donner is 91. Actor Shirley MacLaine is 87. Actor-singer-director Barbra Streisand is 79. Former Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley is 79. Country singer Richard Sterban (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 78. Rock musician Doug Clifford (Creedence Clearwater Revival) is 76. R&B singer Ann Peebles is 74.

LIFESTYLES



Photo by Lynda Balslev for TasteFood

Lynda Balslev



Spring is here, and it’s time to celebrate by adding a little freshness and lightness to your favorite year-round dishes, such as risottos and pasta. Primavera means springtime in Italian, but pasta primavera, while Italian in name, has American roots. It was created in the ‘70s in the famous New York restaurant Le Cirque, and it embraces the season with fresh vegetables and herbs enveloped in a lemony cream sauce. This risotto takes inspiration from pasta primavera, with fresh asparagus and peas stud- ding the rice, along with sweet briny shrimp and juicy Meyer lemon.

When making risotto, remember these simple but important rules for best results. Always purchase arborio rice, which is known for its high starch content. The starch will be “agitated” while stirring the rice, which yields a delicious creamy risotto. The rice grains should be lightly toasted in the pan before adding any liquid. This step protects the grains from bursting while cooking. And be sure to stir the risotto constantly – or nearly constantly – while cooking to prevent it from sticking and to help the rice release its starch.

This recipe specifies fresh shelled peas, but defrosted frozen peas may be substituted. If using defrosted

frozen peas, do not include them when cooking the asparagus. Instead, add them to the risotto at the end of cooking along with the cooked asparagus and shrimp.

Shrimp Risotto Primavera
Active Time: about 45 minutes
Total Time: about 45 minutes
Yield: Serves 4

6 cups chicken stock
3/4 pound asparagus, ends trimmed, cut into bite-size pieces
1/2 cup fresh shelled peas
Extra-virgin olive oil
1 pound large shrimp, shelled and deveined
Salt
Freshly ground black pepper
1/2 small yellow onion, finely chopped
1 1/2 cups arborio rice
1/2 cup dry white wine
1/4 cup finely grated Parmesan cheese
1 tablespoon fresh Meyer lemon juice
1 tablespoon chopped parsley leaves
1 tablespoon dill sprigs
1 teaspoon finely grated Meyer lemon zest, plus extra for garnish

Bring the stock to a simmer in a medium saucepan. Reduce the heat to low and keep warm.

Bring a large saucepan of salt- ed water to a rolling boil. Add the asparagus and peas; cook until the vegetables brighten in color and are crisp-tender, 2 to 3 minutes. Drain and rinse under cold water to stop

the cooking process (they will cook further in the risotto). Set aside.

Add 1 tablespoon oil to a large skillet. Add the shrimp and lightly season with salt and black pepper. Cook until just cooked through, about 4 minutes, turning once. Transfer to another plate.

Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a separate deep skillet or pot over medium heat. Add the onion and a pinch of salt and saute until the onion is soft and translucent without coloring, about 3 minutes. Stir in the rice and cook until it is well coated and lightly toasted, stirring constantly, about 1 minute. Pour in the wine and stir until the wine is absorbed, about 1 minute more.

Add 1 cup stock and stir until the liquid is absorbed. Continue adding the stock, 1/2 cup at a time, stirring until the liquid is absorbed before adding the next 1/2 cup, until the rice is al dente and the risotto is creamy. (Depending on the age of the rice, you may not use all of the stock. Older rice requires more liquid to cook.)

During the last minute or two of cooking, stir in the asparagus, peas and shrimp to warm through.

Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the cheese, lemon juice, parsley, dill and lemon zest. Season to taste with salt and black pepper. Serve immediately, garnished with lemon zest and additional dill or parsley, if desired.

Ponzi king’s death is a reminder that his con-artist tricks live on

Criminal mastermind Bernie Madoff is dead, but plenty of con artists around the world are still thriving – and eager to steal your money.

It’s been nearly 14 years since I wrote about a different scheme run by another charismatic huck- ster. In that case, unlicensed mortgage brokers were pushing homeowners into the type of high-priced, predatory mortgages that led to the housing crash and ultimately created the Great Recession.

The mortgage promoter has remained in business, evading regulators by frequently changing the name of the company and moving his operation from state to state. Every so often I get an email from someone wanting to know whether it’s safe to trust the guy.

Many do exactly what they should do. They search for information and inevitably come across one of my columns. They email me wanting to know more. So I send them additional columns that I wrote about the mort- gage scheme.

Despite a history of cease-and-de- sist orders from various states, some of these folks still weren’t persuaded to avoid busi- ness dealings with a person who has a proven track record of deception.

“I want to believe that this company is a legit- imate financial services firm that’s looking to expand,” one woman emailed in 2018. “Everything in me is saying ‘Run Forrest, run.’”

Eventually – after several warnings from me – she did run. Others don’t want to believe the reporting, so I give up.

But the scammers don’t give up. Because, the truth is, they know people want to believe what we natural skeptics instantly see as unbelievable.

Last week, Madoff died at 82 – 12 years into serving a 150-year prison term for bilking investors out of about \$20 billion. In 2008, Madoff admitted to perpetrating a massive Ponzi scheme in which he used money from some of his investors to make payouts to others.

Madoff had been a prominent member of the securities industry and the chairman of Nasdaq. His victims included inexperienced investors as well as the rich and famous – director Steven Spielberg, actor Kevin Bacon and Holocaust survivor and Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel.

In my experience, investment-fraud victims gen- erally fall into three categories. Many people are so strapped financially that skepticism doesn’t seem like an affordable option. Others trust recommen- dations from people they know and skip doing any due diligence of their own. And some people, out of greed, simply ignore repeated warnings that “if it’s too good to be true, it probably is.”

Madoff’s death is an opportunity to remind us all that the tricks he used still live on and continue to ensnare investors in other scams.

Don’t trust. Always verify. Ronald Reagan said when negotiating with the Soviets, “Trust, but verify.” But when it comes to investing, be skept- ical from the start. I don’t care if your mama, papa or pastor recommends a financial opportuni- ty – always check it out. If someone says they are licensed independently, verify whether it’s true.

Beware of top-earning recruiters. One of the things scammers have going for them is the ability to get others to help them fish for prey. Scammers use people who profited early to spread the word, making the venture appear legitimate. This is common in pyramid schemes, such as illegal “sou- sous,” which I’ve written about. Recruiters – some of whom are unaware that they are participating in a scam – share testimonies about their earnings. In doing so, they hook other victims.

The bait is the financial success of these co-con- spirators, or the innocent fishermen and women. That’s what happened with Madoff. Early investors seemingly made lots of money, although we now know they were being paid by the funds that new investors were giving Madoff. Based on the recom- mendations from these folks, other investors were lured into the Ponzi scheme.

If you don’t understand how the money is being invested, run. You need to understand how your investments will generate a return. Many Madoff victims admitted that they had no clue how their money was being invested. They couldn’t explain how he achieved year-after-year double-digit returns. And when Madoff was pressed, he often wouldn’t explain his investing strategy.

“There was a myth he created around him, that everything was so special, so unique that it had to be secret,” Wiesel, who died in 2016, said during a panel discussion about Madoff’s scheme. At the time, Wiesel said he lost his life savings and \$15 million for the foundation he founded.

If you’re discouraged from asking too many ques- tions, you’re about to be scammed. Madoff would get agitated when pressed for details about his extraordinary investing strategy.

Once when I was peppering a promoter with ques- tions, I was told I had to pay a \$100 membership fee to get more answers.

“Membership has its privileges,” the business promoter angrily quipped. The promoter then asked me who had invited me to the meeting.

“My friend,” I said.

“Would your friend introduce you to anything that is crazy?” she asked.

Yes, your friend may unwittingly introduce you to a scam or scammer. If you are made to feel like a troublemaker because you’re asking a lot of ques- tions, that is a sign to get out – fast.

Madoff was – before his downfall – an investment legend. But we now know the only legendary thing he did was use the same old plays that have long worked for con artists.

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle.singletary@washpost.com. Follow her on Twitter (@SingletaryM) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/ MichelleSingletary). Comments and questions are welcome, but due to the volume of mail, personal responses may not be possible. Please also note comments or questions may be used in a future column, with the writer’s name, unless a spe- cific request to do otherwise is indicated.

Milan gets buzzier with 1 million bees in designer hives

By CHARLENE PELE
Associated Press

MILAN — Italy’s finan- cial and fashion capital of Milan got a little buzzier on Thursday with a project that mixes biodiversity with art.

A bee collective intro- duced 17 new colonies to new designer hives, bring- ing to 1 million the city’s population of honeybees cultivated by the Urban Beehives project. Creator Claudia Zanfi said the project aims to “create an in- tersection between artistic

language and biodiversity.”

The art is in the form of hives designed by interna- tional artists and the bio- diversity comes from the bees, which help pollinate plants in the city’s expand- ing green spaces.

The new hives were in- troduced to their homes in the Cascina Merlata Park, 50 acres of new park dedi- cated last year on land used for the Expo 2015 World’s Fair, which focused on food, food security and nu- trition.

The seven-year-old, prize-winning project is

aimed at educating the pub- lic about the importance of bees to the environment, while boosting their pop- ulation and producing a sweet treat of honey. It’s billed as one of the biggest urban bee collectives in Europe, with hives placed in four public parks in the city.

“Urban Beehives is a re- development project of ur- ban green through the re- introduction of bees in the city,” Zanfi said.

“There always have been bees in the city, but creat- ing a public space for them

is what is new.”

Starting next week, Zan- fi’s group Green Island will offer courses and work- shops at the park on bee- keeping and the bees’ criti- cal role in helping maintain a healthy planet.

Two years ago, the Rome- based Food and Agricul- tural Organization sounded an alarm that declining bee populations pose threat to global food security and nutrition.

“The bees have a funda- mental role for our lives, but also for the life of the planet,” Zanfi said.



ASSEMBLY OF GOD


Gospel Light Assembly of God, 347 Southwood Drive. Pastor Neil Jeffrey. Sunday School 9:45am (all ages). Morning worship service 10:30am. Evening service 6pm. Wednesday midweek service 7pm; Kids' Korral Wednesday 7pm. Youth meeting 7pm (ages 12-19).

 **Sweetwater Assembly of God,** 2551 SR 114 E, North Manchester. (260) 982-6179. Sunday worship 9am & 10:45am. Sunday evening outreach groups & youth ministry 5-7pm. Wednesday 6:30pm adult/teen bible study, 6:30pm Kidz Zone (K thru 6th grade). All worship services streaming online and on our Facebook page.


BAPTIST


Emmanuel Free Will Baptist, 129 Southwood Drive. Pastor Terry Hinds. (260) 563-3009. Sunday School 9:30am. Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm; Children's Church 10:30am. Wednesday morning prayer service 11am. Wednesday Prayer meeting 6pm. Transportation available. Sunday worship services streaming on our Facebook page

Southside Free Will Baptist, 360 Columbus Street. Pastor Tim Webb. Sunday School 10am. Worship Service 11am. Sunday Evening 6pm. Wednesday Evening 6pm. Sunday worship services streaming online

 **Wabash Free Will Baptist Church,** 1056 Erie Street. Wednesday evening prayer meeting 6pm. Sunday School 10am, Church 11am; evening service 6pm.

CATHOLIC

 **St. Bernard Catholic Church,** corner of Cass & Sinclair. Father Levi Nkwocha. Masses will resume, with safety restrictions, beginning May 23-24, 2020. Everyone attending Mass must wear a face mask. Masses: Saturday 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m.; Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday at 8:15 a.m.


 **St. Patrick's Catholic Church,** Main Street in Lagro, Welcomes You Back! New Service Time 11:00 AM Sunday, October 4, Sunday November 1 and Sunday December 6. In keeping with COVID-19 State Rules, please wear a mask and socially distance. Let Us Worship Together.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

 **Christian Heritage Church,** 2776 River Road. (260) 569-7710. Pastor Tim Prater. Sunday 8:30am. Radio Ministry 95.9 WKUZ. Sunday School 9:30am. Morning Service 10:30am. Sunday evening 6pm. Wednesday evening 6pm. Online services on Sunday at 10:30 am and Wednesday 6:00 pm

LaFontaine Christian Church, 202 Bruner Pike, LaFontaine. Minister Brad Wright. (765) 981-2101. Worship 9am & 10:30am, Nursery & Jr. Church available. Online Services available on our website


CHURCH OF CHRIST

 **Church of Christ,** Wabash (corner of N Wabash Street and US 24). Evangelist Josh Fennell (260) 563-8234. Sunday School 9am. Morning Worship 10am. Evening Worship 6:30pm. Wednesday Service 7pm. Wednesday Kid's Jam 7pm.

CHURCH OF GOD

First Church of God, 525 N. Miami Street. Pastor Robert Rensberger. (260) 563-5346. Sunday School at 9:15am, for all ages. Continental breakfast at 10am. Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:30am. Nursery care is available during worship service. Stair lift available.


CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

 **Wabash Church of the Brethren,** 645 Bond Street (off Falls Avenue). Pastor Doug Veal. (260) 563-5291. Wherever you are on life's journey, come join us as we continue the work of Jesus... Peacefully, Simply, Together. Sunday School 9:30am. Worship 10:30am. Children's church and nursery available during worship. Online Service through website or conference call.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

 **Wabash Christian Church (Disciples of Christ),** 110 W. Hill St., Wabash; Stephen Eberhard, transitional minister; phone: 260-563-4179; website: www.wabashchristian.org. Worship Service 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Nursery provided. Find us on You Tube and Facebook. Services streaming on our website and Facebook.

FRIENDS CHURCH

 **Wabash Friends Church,** 3563 S State Rd 13. (260) 563-8452. Lead Pastor, Brandon Eaton. Join us for in-person worship at 8:30AM or 10:45AM, or via live-stream on Facebook at 10:45AM. Children's programming available infants - 6th grade. Sunday school for all ages at 9:45AM. Youth (7th-12th) Sunday evenings at 6:30PM.

INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH


 **Bachelor Creek Church of Christ,** 4 miles north of Wabash on St. Rd. 15; phone 260-563-4109; website: bachelorcreek.com; Worship Minister - Michael Eaton, Student Minister - David Diener, Children's Minister - Tyler Leland, Middle School & Small Groups Minister - Nate Plyler, Next Steps & Outreach Minister - Ryan Keim, Women's Director- Taylor McFarland, Early Childhood Director - Janet Legesse. Worship 9:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.


LUTHERAN


Living Faith Lutheran Church (NALC), 242 S. Huntington St., Wabash, IN. Worship begins each Sunday morning at 10:10 a.m. with Bible study classes for all ages at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship. Worship Services live streamed on our website. www.LivingFaithWabash.org

Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA), 1500 S Wabash Street. Pastor Dr. Kent Young. (260) 563-6626. We worship our Lord each Sunday at 9:30am with Gospel-based message and Holy Communion. There is a time of fellowship and refreshments immediately following the service. We are handicap accessible and everyone is welcome at Trinity! tlcwabash@gmail.com.

UNITED METHODIST

 **North Manchester United Methodist Church,** 306 E Second Street, North Manchester. Pastor Steve Bahrt. (260) 982-7537. Worship Service 8:15am & 10:30am. Coffee Fellowship 9am. Sunday School 9:30am.

 **Richvalley United Methodist Church,** 290 N Jefferson. (260) 563-1033. Pastor Jack Suits. Worship service begins at 9:30am. Nursery available. Sunday School begins at 10:45am for all age.

 **Roann United Methodist Church,** Corner of Adams and Arnold Street, Roann. Pastor Wayne Balmer. (765) 833-2931. Worship Celebration 9am. Sunday School 10:15am.



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If a new blossom is not protected from harm, the future of the flower is lost – but with the right tending and nourishment it blooms beautifully. Those of us who have children realize how difficult it is to protect a child from any harm. No matter how we try, at times we feel inadequate. We may become frustrated and sad as we see our perfect infant grow up and be influenced in ways we cannot control. God can help. This week, visit your chosen place of worship as a family and grow together in the garden of the Creator.

Daily Scripture Readings						
2 Samuel	1 Kings	1 Kings	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms
9:1-13	16:29-17:7	17:8-24	32	51	52	56

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VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON CHURCH SERVICES

Asbury Country Church

On Sunday, April 25 at Asbury Country Church, Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. and the worship service is at 10:30 a.m. The worship leader and music leader will be Amy Bullick, and the piano will be by Roger Marine. The morning message will be, “Bringing Us Together” by Pastor Mike Bullick.

Bachelor Creek Church of Christ

Online services are available by visiting www.bachelorcreek.com.

Christ United Methodist Church

On Sunday, April 25 worship service at Christ United Methodist Church, 477 N. Wabash St., is at 10 a.m. The service will be led by Pastor Tom Richards while Rev. Dr. Jim Lo will present a special message. Join us in person or watch the service live-streamed on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ChristUMCWabash/.

Christian Heritage Church

Streaming services online and broadcast on 95.9 FM.

College Corner Brethren Church

College Corner Brethren Church is now holding in-person services at 10:15 a.m. Sundays at 8996 S. 500 West, with Pastor Solomon David. The sermons are still on YouTube and Facebook.

Common Ground Prayer House

The Common Ground Prayer House will be open to the public from 8 to 10 a.m. Mondays, except holidays, at 78 W. Hill St. COVID-19 precautions will be taken in the form of

masks being worn by prayer house representatives and social distancing. For more information, call Jennifer Mahan at 260-571-8063, Shirley Neale at 260-591-0047 or Debbie Sweet at 260-571-6072.

Dora Christian Church

For the Sunday, April 25 services at Dora Christian Church in Lagro the minister will be Mark Wisniewski, the song leader will be Olman Sanchez, the pianist will be Sherry Brock and the organist will be Kristy Good. We have two in-person Sunday services at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m., with Sunday school classes for all ages from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Preacher Mark Wisniewski’s message for this Sunday will be “Forged in Fire” from Malachi 3:1-6. The Communion Table will be served by Chuck Marion and Brad Frieden. There will be a children’s church provided for the 10:30 a.m. service, to be taught by John Troyer and Janene Wisniewski. If you can’t make it to the live services, Preacher Mark Wisniewski’s sermon will be posted on the Dora Christian Church Facebook group Sunday morning for all to see.

LaFontaine Christian Church

The LaFontaine Christian Church pre-records the sermon which is then available for all to view at www.lafontainechristian.com under the sermons tab, stated Pastor Brad Wright.

LaFontaine United Methodist Church

Pastor Susan Shambaugh says that her LaFontaine United Methodist Church is live-streaming on their Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/LaFontaine-United-Methodist-Church> and that it may be accessed as a video afterward.

Lincolnville United Methodist Church

Lincolnville United Methodist, 5848 E. 500 South, is going back to one worship service. The worship service is at 10 a.m., and Sunday school is at 9 a.m.

Living Faith Lutheran Church

Welcome to our in-person worship service at 10:10 a.m. Sundays at Living Faith Lutheran Church, 242 S. Huntington St. Bible study and Sunday school are at 9 a.m. for all ages. The sanctuary is arranged for social distancing. Masks are encouraged and available. Online services are at 10:10 a.m., with pre-service music at 10 a.m. For virtual services and more information, visit www.livingfaithwabash.org.

Manchester Church of the Brethren

Pastor Kurt Borgmann from the Manchester Church of the Brethren stated they will hold a live-stream service at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday by visiting www.manchestercob.net. Scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on the black button that says, “Manchester CoB YouTube Channel.” After the service is finished, one may access a video copy of the live stream in the same way. Another way to access the live stream or posted video: go to YouTube, search “Manchester Church of the Brethren,” and click on the circle profile.

North Manchester Congregational Christian Church

Pastor Sebrena Cline stated live streaming begins on their Facebook page at 10 a.m. Sundays for the North Manchester Congregational Christian Church, and lasts 30 to 40 minutes.

North Manchester Missionary Church

The North Manchester Missionary Church is streaming live on their Facebook page at 10 a.m. Sunday. The video is then placed on their webpage, which can be viewed by visiting NMMC1.com.

Olive Branch Church of God

The Olive Branch Church of God live-streams Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. Find it through Facebook, by searching Olive Branch Church, or by visiting www.facebook.com/myolivebranchchurch or through the church website www.olivebranch.church. Click “Live Streaming” at the top, then click the series icon (lion head).

Richvalley United Methodist Church

Worship at Richvalley United Methodist Church begins at 9:30 a.m. Sundays at 290 N. Jefferson St. Sunday school begins at 10:45 a.m. For more information, call 260-563-1033 or email rvumc@hotmail.com.

Roann United Methodist Church

Pastor Wayne Balmer will have service in person at the church along with being online at 9 a.m. Sunday, April 25. The sermon will be taken from 1st John 2:15-17 titled, “Do Not Love the World.”

Southside Free Will Baptist

Streaming on their Facebook page.

Sweetwater Assembly of God

Streaming services online using the normal service schedule.

Urbana Yoke Parish

Rev. Larry Wade of the Urbana Yoke Parish stated that his congregation posts Sunday services to www.urbanayokeparish.com. Go to the menu line at the top of the page and select “Worship Videos.” The most recent one will appear first. Sunday services are posted by noon every Tuesday.

Wabash Church of the Brethren

At the Wabash Church of the Brethren, Pastor Doug Veal is holding a Zoom meeting each Sunday for worship. The meeting is open at 10:15 a.m. so that everyone can be connected by 10:30 a.m. Join this church service by visiting <https://zoom.us/j/393263884> or by calling 312-626-6799 and enter meeting ID No. 393 263 884.

Wabash Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Welcome to Wabash Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 110 West Hill St. In-person worship is at 9:30 a.m. Sunday mornings in the sanctuary or via live-stream for the church at home on the Wabash Christian YouTube Channel. Access is also available on our Facebook page and website wabashchristian.org. Stephen Eberhard is the transitional minister.

Wabash Church of the Nazarene

Pastor Kirk Johnson, of the Wabash Church of the Nazarene, stated their service is available on YouTube on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Find it by going to YouTube and search for “Wabash Nazarene” or search Facebook for the Wabash Church of the Nazarene. Another option is to visit www.wabashnaz.com, look for the home page, and find “Latest Sermon.”

Wabash First Church of God

At the 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 25 worship service at Wabash First Church of God, 525 N. Miami St., the guest speaker will be Alan Siepkier. The sermon may also be seen on YouTube under Wabash 1st Church and heard at 11 a.m. Sunday on 105.9 FM. While in the church building, masks are optional but we do practice social distancing. Sunday Servants are Sue White, chairperson; Chris Sands, worship; Nancy Kolb, piano; and Rose Sands, organ.

Walk by Faith Community Church

At the Walk by Faith Community Church in Roann, Sunday school begins at 9 a.m. and the worship and children’s worship services begin at 10 a.m. The youth pastor is Jody Tyner. Our greeters for Sunday, April 25 will be Jared and Lynn Miller, and Penny and Heath Tackett. Pastor Jody Tyner will be sharing the message with us. We invite all to come and worship with us. All will be welcome to a Fellowship Fiesta Party featuring “food, fun and fellowship” from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, May 2. The Walk by Faith Youth ministry meets at 5 p.m. every Sunday. For more information, visit www.walkbyfaithcommunitychurch.com.

Zion Lutheran Church of Wabash

Pastor Jerry Gauthier says that the Zion Lutheran Church of Wabash is streaming through their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/zionwabash at 10:30 a.m. Sundays. *Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.*

PULSE

From page A1

Second Harvest to hold a tailgate food distribution

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 28 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15. For more information, visit www.curehunger.org.classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182 or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

Shop Hop in Downtown Wabash runs through April

Wabash Marketplace’s Shop Hop” in downtown Wabash takes place Thursday, April 1 through Friday, April 30 and includes a chance to win a prize of \$100 Shop Hop Dollars. Take the entry form to each participating business and receive a validation mark, no purchase necessary. Once the entry form is 100 percent completed, participants submit their entry to one of the participating shops or Bickford of Wabash, 3037 W. Division Road. Entry forms must be submitted by 5 pm Friday, April 30. The four businesses participating in Shop Hop are: Borders & Beyond, 24 W. Canal St.; Downtown Nutrition, 70 W. Market St.; Ohh My! Cakes, 2 W. Market St.; and Visit Wabash County, 221 S. Miami St. Entry forms are available at each of the participating businesses and a digital copy of the form is available at www.wabashmarketplace.org. The winner will be selected the week of Monday, May 3.

National Day of Prayer events planned for Thursday, May 6

A pair of celebrations have been planned for the day, first from 12:10 to 12:50 p.m. on the lawn of the Wabash County Courthouse, and again at 6:30 p.m. at the Wabash City Park Pavilion. The guest speaker will be Indiana Statehouse Chaplain Matthew Barnes. For more information, visit www.praywabash.org.

Local clean-up days announced

Mayor Scott Long said the city was working in conjunction with the Wabash County Solid Waste Management District’s annual Spring Tox-Away Day. The city will offer curbside spring cleanup from Monday, May 3 through Friday, May 7. Piles for pickup should be no larger than 4 feet by 8 feet for collection by the Street Department personnel. Wabash’s Tox-Away Day would be set from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 8, and that North Manchester’s would be set from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 15. The gates will close “promptly” at 1 p.m. on both days.

Grow Wabash County hosting Process Communication workshop

Registration is now open for Grow Wabash County’s Process Communication Model (PCM) workshop scheduled for Monday, May 3 through Wednesday, May 5, at the Grow Wabash County office. Tuition for the workshop will be \$600. The tuition fee will

cover the participant’s course fees, an in-depth personalized PCM profile, and snacks and meals throughout the workshop. Those interested or representatives for their companies can do so at www.growwabashcounty.com/pcmworkshop or by contacting Grow Wabash County by email info@growwabashcounty.com or by phone at 260-563-5258.

Visit Wabash County plans historic buildings tour for May

The tour will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 8. The cost will be \$25 per person and will begin at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center, 221 S. Miami St., Wabash. The North Manchester buildings included in the tour will be The Union Block and Straus Building, The Tower House and The L.Z. Bunker House. For more information, visit www.visitwabashcounty.com/trolley-tours or call 260-563-7171. Payment is due upon registration.

Salamonie Lake workdays continue throughout summer

Salamonie Lake’s Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, will host a variety of volunteer work-related activities. Check-in and instructions will be available at the Interpretive and Nature Center. The volunteer workdays will continue throughout the summer at: 9 a.m. Monday, May 17; 9 a.m. Monday, June 21; 9 a.m. Monday, July 26; 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 16; and 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 25. For more information, visit 260-468-2127.

Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month, with the next one scheduled for May 20 at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times. For more information, call 260-563-3511.

Manchester University sets in-person graduation ceremonies

Several small, in-person ceremonies are scheduled for Saturday, May 22 in Cordier Auditorium on the North Manchester campus. Graduate and Professional ceremony are at 9 a.m. for Doctor of Pharmacy, Master of Athletic Training, Master of Pharmacogenomics, and the dual degree in pharmacy and pharmacogenomics (Pharm.D. and MS in Pgx). Undergraduate and Master of Accountancy (M.Acct.) ceremonies are in this order: 11:30 a.m. Honors Program, College of Arts and Humanities, M.Acct. and Gilbert College of Business; 2:30 p.m. College of Pharmacy, Natural and Health Sciences; and 4:30 p.m. College of Education and Social Sciences.

Pancake Day planned for June 12

The Wabash Kiwanis Club’s Pancake Day 2021 event will take place from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 12 at

the newly renovated Bruce Ingraham building at the Wabash County Fairgrounds, located just off of Gillen Avenue. Pancakes, with or without blueberries, will be available, along with sausages and drinks. Tickets will be \$8 at the door and \$7 in advance for adults 13 years and older and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12 years. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 years and younger. Sponsorship opportunities for businesses for Pancake Day are available by email at donnasiders@hotmail.com or by calling 260-571-1892. Sponsors would receive complimentary tickets to the event and on-site recognition in exchange for their support for only \$150.

Salamonie to hold Summer Forest Camp

Salamonie Lake will be hosting “a unique outdoor day camp” from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday, June 28 to Friday, July 2 at Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Children ages 7 to 13 are welcome. Limited space is available. The cost per child is \$60 and \$55 for each additional sibling. Register and pay by Monday, June 14 and save \$10 per child. For more information and registration, call 260-468-2127.

INDOT begins Indiana 13 and 15 Wabash River bridgework

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has announced bridge maintenance work over the Wabash River on Indiana 13 and Indiana 15 in Wabash. The northbound lanes between Lafontaine Avenue and Miami Street will be closed to traffic. Motorists should use the posted detour of Lafontaine Avenue, Huntington

Street and Market Street. The southbound lanes between Fulton Street and Dimension Avenue will be reduced to one lane because of the work. The work is set to wrap up in July.

Indiana 15 lane closures to last through mid-summer

Alternating lane closures are planned for Indiana 15. The work is happening between Indiana 13 and Wedcor Avenue. Widths will be restricted to 13 feet during the project and that loads wider than 13 feet should seek an alternate route using the nearest numbered state, U.S. or interstate routes. The work is scheduled to wrap up by mid-summer.

DivorceCare meets Tuesdays

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation’s foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering. Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email office@wabashfriends.org, call 260-571-5235 or visit www.divorcecare.org. *Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.*



Check us out online at www.wabashplaindealer.com

Dog-walker gives neighbor the creeps

DEAR ABBY: I am a 34-year-old woman. I live in a ground floor unit in an apartment complex with my terrier-collie mix, who is a very good judge of character.

An elderly neighbor has a habit of walking his German shepherd by my unit. My dog does not like the man and barks ferociously every time he hears them. What unsettles me is that something seems off about him, and his behavior is becoming intrusive.

The couple of times he has seen me outside, he has asked me if I live “all alone” or comments that he “hasn’t seen my boyfriend around in a long time.” He peers into my window when he walks and lingers, despite my growling and snarling dog. I tried closing the blinds, but now he comes to my door and knocks. I haven’t answered because he makes me feel unsafe.

I want to confront him, but I’m not sure what to say. It’s also happening right in front of the building I live in, which makes me nervous. What should I do? – Wary In Washington

DEAR WARY: The person you describe may be more lonely – or nosy – than dangerous. You can’t stop someone from walking his dog past your front door if that is where the exit is located. Talk to your other neighbors and ask if he has a history of doing this with them.

If he knocks on your door again, tell him you are busy and don’t like being disturbed and to stop doing it. If he asks any more personal questions or comments again about your boyfriend’s absence, tell him your social life is none of his business. If it will make you feel more secure, install security cameras in your apartment, and if you catch him peering into your windows again, tell him you have him on camera and you will report him not only to building management but also the police.

DEAR ABBY: I’m a middle-aged woman needing to know what to do. I have family members who say if I weren’t around, things would be a lot better. I was told from the beginning that I was a “mistake.” I am wondering, should I stay hurt with them for saying these things, or should I let it go?

They are always saying I will never amount to anything. When I say something to them about the way they make me feel, they tell me to be quiet and mind my own business. Should I tell them how I feel or what? – Devalued In The South

DEAR DEVALUED: A family member (!) who would say something so cruel as what you have described is someone you should avoid contact with, if possible. It’s very important that you spend time with people – other family members or friends – who help you to feel BETTER about yourself rather than worse.

Should you tell these family members how you feel? Ordinarily, I would say yes. However, because you have already done that, I don’t think it would enlighten them. Believe me, you have my sympathy because these relatives are toxic.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby



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- 14 Muslim honorific
- 15 Sicilian landmark
- 16 Delightful place
- 17 Criticize
- 19 Sigmund or Anna
- 21 DJ’s albums
- 22 Heavy weight
- 23 Stirring
- 26 Mariachi gig
- 29 Popinjay
- 30 Reddish-brown horse
- 32 Polish
- 34 House mem.
- 35 Jason’s ship

37 Previous to

- 38 Warfare
- 41 Kilt feature
- 43 Shogun’s yes
- 44 Student stat
- 45 Goatee sites
- 47 Lomond and Ness
- 50 Breakdown
- 51 Frau’s abode
- 53 Not hither
- 55 Two-color cookie
- 56 Lo-cal
- 57 Pair
- 58 Some T-shirts
- 59 Fabric meas.
- 60 House shader

DOWN

- 1 Ms. Thurman of “Gattaca”
- 2 Beer barrels
- 3 Pizazz
- 4 Casts a ballot
- 5 Charged particle

Answer to Previous Puzzle

Z	E	S	T		S	A	C	H	E	T
A	R	T	H	U	R	A	T	H	E	N
G	R	E	E	C	E	L	O	A	N	E
		S	K	I		A	M	P		
	L	Y	E		G	A	D		P	E
I	I	T	R	N	S		H	E	R	O
S	O	P		U	S	S	A	D	O	R
I	N	P	U	T		A	D	Z	I	S
S	E	E	R	S		I	R	E		C
L	E	A		E	L	I		P	A	N
		N	E	A		V	O	L		
O	B	O	I	S	T		E	R	A	S
R	E	F	U	T	E		N	A	T	I
B	A	T	M	A	N		L	O	C	A

- 6 Making
- 7 Hive VIPs
- 8 Lahore language
- 9 Mellowed
- 10 Ginza money
- 12 Spice rack item
- 18 Genre
- 20 Caviar, actually
- 23 Kenya’s loc.
- 24 Troubles
- 25 Dr.’s visit
- 26 Cabby’s take
- 27 Twig bearer
- 28 Mystique
- 31 In a boorish manner
- 33 Put money on
- 36 Side against
- 39 Horned animals
- 40 John, in Aberdeen
- 42 Resinous substance
- 44 Floods the market
- 45 Antidote
- 46 Made tracks
- 48 Jekyll’s alter ego
- 49 2020 Pixar film
- 50 — -com
- 52 Bail out
- 54 Name, to Pierre

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11				12				13		
14				15				16		
	17		18			19	20			
			21			22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	
29				30	31			32		33
34				35			36	37		
	38	39	40			41	42			
			43			44				
	45	46				47		48	49	
50					51	52		53		54
55					56			57		
58					59			60		

4-24 © 2021 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

9				5		7		
	4			7				5
				2		9		8
	5	2		8		7		
				6				
		7		1		8	9	
8		4		3				
7				6			8	
	3		9					4

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION								
1	4	6	3	2	7	9	8	5
5	7	9	4	6	8	3	2	1
8	2	3	1	5	9	6	7	4
4	5	8	2	9	1	7	3	6
7	6	1	8	4	3	5	9	2
3	9	2	5	7	6	4	1	8
9	8	5	6	3	2	1	4	7
6	1	7	9	8	4	2	5	3
2	3	4	7	1	5	8	6	9

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VONEW

TIDOT

GJLGUE

ARNWRO

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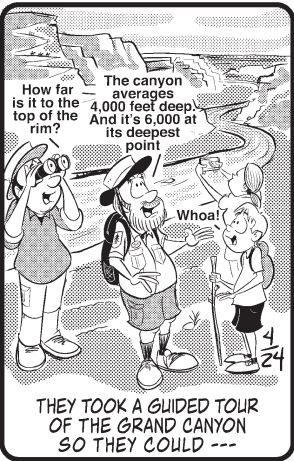
THE

THE

THE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



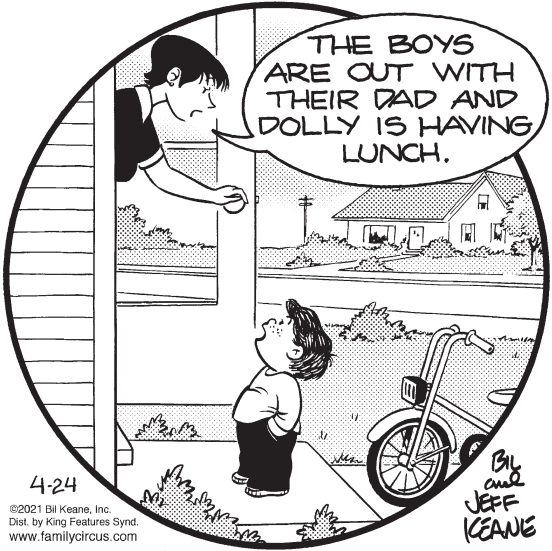
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday’s Jumbles: ELOPE BRAND NEARLY FRIGID Answer: The squirrel with the bushy tail was getting married, and she was — “BRIDE”-EYED

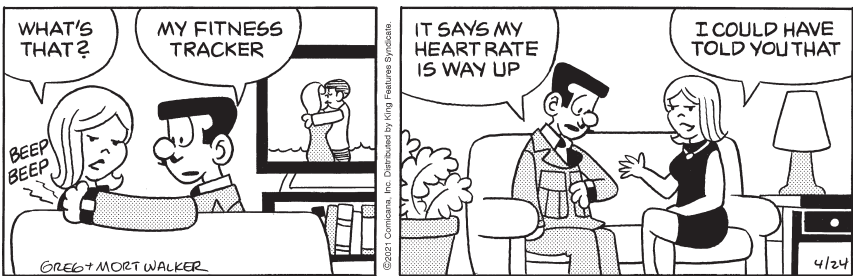
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



“Okay, then do YOU wanna ride bikes?”

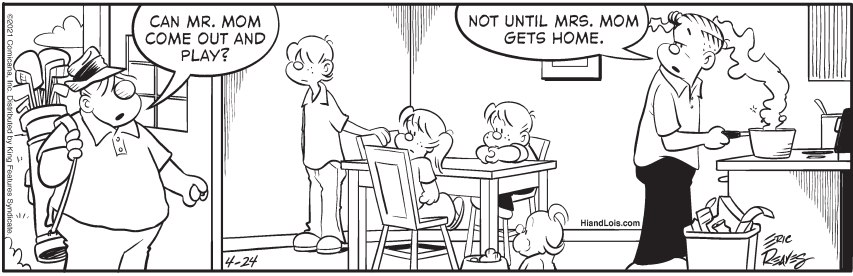
BEEBLE BAILEY



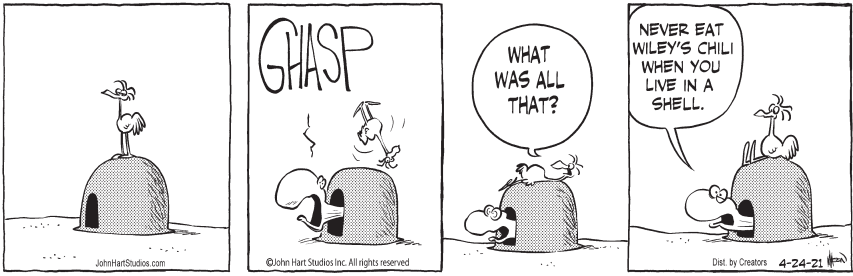
BLONDIE



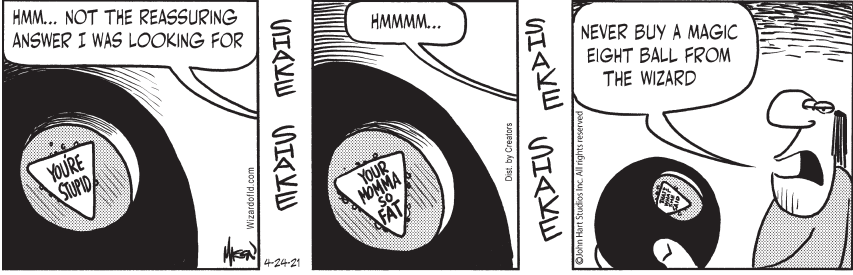
HI & LOIS



BC



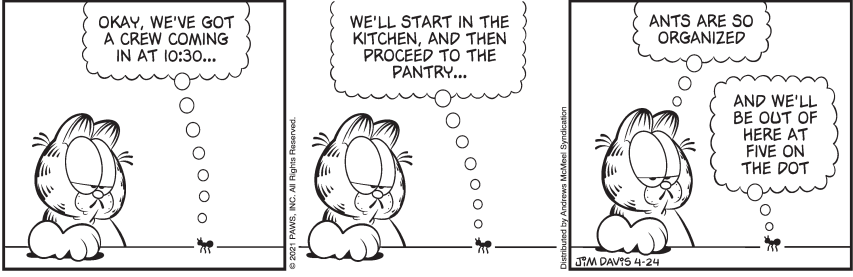
WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



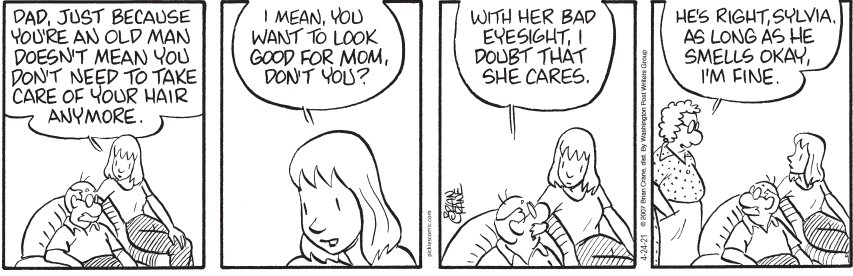
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



God doesn’t change nor will His law ever change

Q: I’m studying pre-law but it’s difficult because the laws keep changing, and even in America, there is a disregard for the law of the Constitution. No wonder the world cries out to dismiss even God’s laws! It makes me wonder how man can survive if law is disregarded. – L.T.

A: God doesn’t change nor will His law ever change. No man has power over God. The Bible teaches that sin is transgression of the law (1 John 3:4). This word “transgression” could be translated “lawlessness.” Jesus indicated that as men approached the end of history there would be a worldwide rebellion against law and order. Rebellion and lawlessness are present on

a scale such as the world’s never known. Children rebel against parents until many parents are actually afraid of their children. University students rebel against society. People corrupt themselves by worshipping “self.” But most of all, transgression of God’s law is sin against Him.

The world today is on an immoral binge much like it was in ancient Rome. Before Rome fell, her standards were abandoned, the family disin-

tegrated, divorce prevailed, and immorality was rampant. We’re in a hedonistic society watching human nature expressing itself without God. While we often think of outward rebellion as sin, we fail to look inward.

But God can break the chain of every transgression that binds us if we repent and turn from sin and follow the Savior. He will come into our lives and give us power to overcome sin.

CELEBRITY CIPHER by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ D BWP W LDPSJ UWPS JI UE VNSSRM
XRSS JFSVWMDJR. MBS PJNMJV GWDP
DM YWG MBS TSGM UJLDS D SLSV
GMVVVSP DR.” — GBDVCSE UWNCWD RS

Previous Solution: “Responsibility without power, the fate of the secretary through the ages.” — Ariel Dorfman

TODAY’S CLUE: M sþnþø A



Provided photo

Trine University's High Voltage Dance Team finished third during its first trip to the National Dance Alliance Collegiate national championship, held Thursday, April 8 and Friday, April 9 in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Trine's High Voltage Dance Team scores third at nationals

Alexis Westendorf, of Wabash, majors in actuarial science

STAFF REPORT

Trine University's High Voltage Dance Team finished third during its first trip to the National Dance Alliance Collegiate national championship, held Thursday, April 8 and Friday, April 9 in Daytona Beach, Florida, according to a press release. Among the team's members is

Alexis Westendorf of Wabash, majoring in actuarial science at Trine.

Trine finished with 86.88 points in the Team Performance Division III Finals, less than one point behind the second-place University of Texas at Dallas. Six teams total competed in the division; three in person and three virtually.

"This year was an amazing experience," said Coach Shea Sims. "This is the third year that the team has tried to compete at NDA College Nationals. There were so many hurdles

set in front of them and together they overcame each one. I am so thankful for the girls' hard work and the support of the university to allow the ladies to do so. We were thankful to compete in person."

The team performance division combines three styles: pom, jazz and hip hop. Teams are required to perform at least 30 consecutive seconds in each style.

Trine qualified for the national event by winning a bronze bid at its home camp over the summer.

Michael Andretti builds different racing name as team owner

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Alexander Rossi didn't sugarcoat his 2020 season, which was a terrible year at Andretti Autosport. Just one win, never in the championship mix, a driver fired with three races remaining and, worst of all, the team was a non-factor at the Indianapolis 500.

"I just think we sucked globally," Rossi said.

The man running the massive operation is Michael Andretti and he gives Rossi's assessment some validity. But he also believes Andretti Autosport has emerged with at least two legitimate title contenders among four entries Sunday at St. Petersburg. He's down two cars from this time a year ago.

"We're here. We made it out of 2020. We're not going to be out of business," Andretti said in an interview with The Associated Press. "But we're working to make sure we can keep our heads above water and stay competitive. I don't want to have to cut my budget. If I have to cut my budget, our cars are going to go slower and nobody wants that."

Andretti is 58 and has been out of cars full-time since he was 39. He could have kept driving, and physically felt he probably had five more years in him. But he was over it. He had moved on to the next chapter.

There can only be one Mario Andretti, right? At some point you just are Michael Andretti and his career is much different from that of his famous father.

Andretti is running 15 cars across seven different series, from IndyCar to the fully-electric UK-based Formula E and Extreme E Series.

Andretti Autosport will have six cars in the Indianapolis 500, a race Michael Andretti has won five times as a team owner. Rossi and Colton Herta, who had the team's only win last season, could both be considered expected

to among the title contenders.

IndyCar is where Andretti Autosport gets most of its attention but Andretti isn't afraid to look beyond his backyard.

Andretti Autosport races in Australia and Mexico, and he wants to start an IMSA sports car program for son Marco, who in January said his heart isn't into IndyCar anymore and he only wants to run the Indy 500.

Mario Andretti told AP his son is interested in entering Formula One in some form and Michael Andretti last month announced the formation of a Special Purpose Acquisition Company. The SPAC anticipates being listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "WNNR" and said in a statement it aims to raise \$250 million.

"He's a risk-taker. I'm very proud of what he's doing," Mario Andretti said of his son.

Racing is all Michael Andretti knows and although it doesn't pay the bills — among the Andretti Group "family properties" is a petroleum consortium of gas stations, car washes and convenience stores up and down the West Coast — "you need a reason in your life to get up, right?"

"I don't see myself myself doing anything but racing because you need that reason to get up," he says.

It aggravates Andretti that IndyCar doesn't have any sort of tangible charter system that rewards his investment in the series.

"I got criticized for saying any Joe Blow can come in here and start a team and they shouldn't be able to because it devalues all the other people that have been here forever and forever," Andretti said. "We need a system. We need more revenue."

He is also annoyed that he is fielding four cars in the Indy Lights feeder series and fellow racing heavyweights Roger Penske and Chip Ganassi aren't fielding any.

"The next Colton Herta has



Kristin Enzor / IndyStar / AP

Team owner Michael Andretti looks toward the skies late during practice for the Indianapolis 500 on May 16, 2019.

to come from somewhere," Andretti said.

Andretti needs to show this year that his IndyCar program is better because Rossi, the 2016 Indy 500 winner, is tired of not winning the championship. Andretti needs him.

Herta, who turned 21 last month, has always been part of the organization. His father, Bryan, was an Andretti driver, part team owner and Marco Andretti's race strategist.

The Hertas this year will be paired on the radio for the first time in IndyCar in a match that never worked with Michael and Marco. The two would end up screaming at each other, but Michael thinks the Hertas can be the exception — Bobby and Graham Rahal didn't gel either — and that gives him two strong title contenders.

Ryan Hunter-Reay is on the hot seat, as always, it seems. The 2012 champion, the last driver not from Ganassi or Penske to win the title, turns 41 this year and young talent is coming into IndyCar. Andretti loves the 2014 Indy 500 winner, but said the driver knows he's got to produce this year.

A sixth driver, probably Stefan Wilson, will be added to

the Indy 500 lineup alongside full-time driver James Hinchcliffe and Marco Andretti, who will make his season debut next month in that race. Andretti Autosport was struggling last year to sell sponsorship for the third generation racer and Marco told his dad he wanted to do other things.

"As soon as he told me, it was like all the pressure was gone," Michael Andretti said. "He's just happy. That's good for him."

Marco Andretti has two career victories, his last in 2011. But last year on the anniversary of Mario Andretti's 1969 victory — the only win for the storied family — Marco won his first career Indy 500 pole for the only race in 104 years run without spectators because of the pandemic.

There's another potential Andretti racer: Michael's son, Mario, a 7-year-old twin called Rio. The family figures the 74-year age gap from his grandfather was enough to relieve some of the pressure.

Rio, Michael Andretti learned as the family spent much of the pandemic in Miami Beach, loves racing and seems drawn to speed. There's always a chance there really might be another Mario Andretti.

Freeman seeking more disruption from Notre Dame defense

By JOHN FINERAN

Associated Press

SOUTH BEND — Notre Dame is counting on its new defensive coordinator to groom a hungry unit in hopes of another trip to the College Football Playoff and the school's first national championship since 1988.

"We want to be aggressive in what we do," said 35-year-old Marcus Freeman, who left Cincinnati and replaces now-Vanderbilt head coach Clark Lea running the Fighting Irish defense. "Sometimes it's not going to be perfect, but if you continue to play with great effort and attitude, (if) you're disruptive, good things will happen."

After 11 spring practices, Freeman's defenders have been just that and the differences are clear.

Fifth-year nose tackle Kurt Hinish: "We play a lot more fast and a lot more free because the defense isn't as complicated as we've had in the past."

Senior linebacker Bo Bauer: "It's kind of nice to play free and to know that if things don't go exactly as planned, that effort and our attitude will take over. Coach Lea is a great coach, but he asked us to know a lot of rules and be detail-oriented. Sometimes it was difficult to play with your natural instincts."

Or, as senior defensive tackle Jayson Ademilola put it: "He wants us to go eat."

One player leery of picking up his knife and fork: 6-foot-3, 270-pound fifth-year player Myron Tagovailoa-Amosa, who has dropped 15 pounds to move from defensive tackle to defensive end this spring. He said he hopes the spring-time disruption he sees will translate into the fall when Notre Dame opens its season Sept. 5 at Florida State.

"We're throwing a lot at our offense," Tagovailoa-Amosa said of the multiple-front defense that Freeman intends to employ. "It's really simple. Once a play is called, no checks. It's just put your foot on the gas and just go. That's really what it is."

Freeman, a former standout linebacker at Ohio State whose professional career was cut short by an enlarged heart, spent four seasons on Luke Fickell's staff at Cincinnati as linebackers coach and defensive coordinator. The Bearcats improved each season. In 2020, Cincinnati finished eighth in scoring defense (16.8 points per game), 13th in total defense (324.6 yards per game), 13th in rushing defense (111.1 yards per game) and 11th in pass-efficiency defense.

"We have always been and

will always be a defensive line-driven program," Freeman said.

"That means as our defensive line goes, our defense will go. They are extremely deep at the position. Coach (Mike) Elston has done an unbelievable job with those guys to get them to learn the scheme, to learn the things we want them to do, and it's made it easier for linebackers, safeties and corners to make the transition of a new defense."

Two defensive end stalwarts from last season — Daelin Hayes and Adetokunbo Ogundedeji — could be drafted by NFL teams next week.

But there shouldn't be a dropoff for the Irish with the move of Tagovailoa-Amosa to join Justin Ademilola (Jayson's twin) at defensive end and 6-foot-5, 257-pound junior Isaiah Foskey and 6-foot-3, 248-pound sophomore Jordan Botelho replacing Hayes as the end who will be asked to rush the quarterback as well as to drop back in pass coverage.

Foskey was second on the team in sacks in 2020 with 4.5 behind Ogundedeji's seven, while Botelho was a special teams standout last season, scoring a touchdown on a blocked punt.

"I remember when I got here people were saying (Foskey) is the potential first-round pick of the future," Freeman said. "When we talk about being disruptive, Jordan is one of the leaders of being disruptive. He plays with the effort and the reckless abandon we need every member of our defense to play with."

The secondary again will be led by All-America free safety Kyle Hamilton, who is recovering from ankle surgery and not participating this spring. His spot has been taken by senior DJ Brown while the strong safety is senior Houston Griffith, who left the transfer portal after talking with coach Brian Kelly and Freeman in January. Senior Tariq Bracy, junior Cam Hart and sophomore Clarence Lewis have been getting most of the reps among the cornerbacks.

Freeman's linebackers have been learning the multiple positions. Bauer is expected to share time with grad student Drew White, who has been sidelined by an ankle injury, while senior Shayne Simon and junior Marist Liufau are the weakside candidates. Junior Jack Kiser and grad student Isaiah Pryor have been splitting the work to replace All-American Jeremiah Owusu-Koramoah at rover.

"When we get into the fall, we'll start with the best three linebackers and put them on the field — I don't care what position," Freeman said.

Painter hires Terry Johnson as new Boilermakers ass't.

WEST LAFAYETTE (AP) — Purdue coach Matt Painter filled the second void on his coaching staff Thursday by hiring Terry Johnson from Ohio State.

Johnson spent the last seven seasons working under coach Chris Holtmann, the first three at Butler and the last four with the Buckeyes.

Last week, Painter brought back Paul Lusk for his second stint with the Boilermakers.

The two spots opened when Painter's top assistants, Micah Shrewsberry and Steve Lutz, both accepted head coaching jobs. Lusk is expected to help replace Shrewsberry, the new Penn State head coach and former Butler assistant who helped run the Boilermakers' defense for the past two seasons.

Painter did not say whether Johnson would take over Lutz's role in running the Purdue offense.

"Terry comes to Purdue with a wealth of experience

at successful basketball programs," Painter said. "He has had success at both Butler and Ohio State on the floor and in recruiting high-quality student-athletes. He will be a very welcome addition to our program."

Johnson worked at Butler from 2007-2017 under three different coaches — Brad Stevens, Brandon Miller and Holtmann — before taking the Buckeyes job. Johnson also worked for one season under Dane Fife at Purdue-Fort Wayne.

"Being from Anderson, Indiana, I have known coach Painter for a long time and have been watching the program for a long time," Johnson said. "I'm really looking forward to join a great university and continue and enhance the success this program has had."

Johnson played baseball and basketball in college, finishing his career with the Purdue-Fort Wayne baseball team in 1998.

Pray for our nation

By DAVE SNOWDON

Thursday, May 6 is the National Day of Prayer (NDOP). The community of Wabash will be gathering at two different times and two different locations to pray for our nation: 12:10 p.m. at the Wabash County Courthouse and 6:30 p.m. at the Wabash City Park pavilion.

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance that is held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to join together in prayer for our nation. The NDOP was established by Congress and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman in 1952; and in 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed the amended law designating the NDOP to be the first Thursday of May.

But our history of calling our nation to prayer had its beginning in 1775 when the Continental Congress called the colonies to pray for wisdom in the forming of our new nation. In all, there have been 146-plus national calls to prayer, humility, fasting and thanksgiving by the president of the United States from 1789 to 2020. Every president since 1952 has signed an NDOP proclamation, a total of 69. And our history records from the first call in 1775 there have been 1,526 state and federal calls for national prayer.

For 246 years, since that first proclamation in 1775, calling the nation to prayer is a vital part of our heritage. Our early founding fathers realized that without God's help, they would not succeed in forming a new nation. The words of Benjamin Franklin in a speech he gave to the Constitutional Convention on June 28, 1787, express the urgent need to pray: "... In the beginning of the Contest with Great Britain, when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayer ... for Divine protection. Our prayers were, Sir, heard, and they were graciously answered ... have we forgotten this powerful friend? Or do we imagine we no longer need His assistance? I have lived, Sir, a long time, (81), and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth – that God Governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to

Editor's Note

References for this column include nationaldayofprayer.org and pages 248 and 249 of the book, "America's God and Country" by William Federer.

the ground without His notice, (Matthew 10:29) it is possible that an empire can rise without His aid?" He concluded his remarks to call for daily prayers over the assembled legislators and that God would guide their deliberations in forming and conducting government business.

This July we will celebrate 245 years of freedom. And in those 245 years in our darkest times when we cried out to God as a nation, God heard our cry and intervened on behalf of our nation. As it was true in Ben Franklin's day, it is true today. We need God to mercifully intervene again and heal our land and turn us and our leaders back to Him; not just for ourselves but for our children and future generations.

Franklin's concluding remarks of that speech are prophetic as he implored his colleagues to seek God: "... except the Lord build the House, they labor in vain that build it. (Psalm 127:1). I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the Builders of Babel; we shall be divided by our partial interests; our projects will be confounded, and we ourselves shall become a reproach and bye word down to future ages."

The call for prayer is as urgent to us today as it was in Ben Franklin's day. Please join us to pray for our nation. Chaplain Matt Barnes, of the Indiana Statehouse, will be our guest speaker at the 6:30 p.m. event. Please bring your lawn chairs. Join us in seeking God for our nation.

Dave Snowden and his wife recently moved to the Wabash community to be near six of their 11 grandchildren and their parents. The couple has three adult children and 11 grandchildren. He is a retired Navy Chaplain and veteran of Vietnam and Iraqi Freedom. He also retired from the Christian & Missionary Alliance and Senior Adult Health Care in Friendship Village in Dayton, Ohio.

Legislature ends on high note after struggles

By TOM DAVIES
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Republican lawmakers set up a constitutional challenge to Indiana GOP Gov. Eric Holcomb over his office's emergency powers a week before wrapping up this year's regular legislative session.

Days later, the governor and legislative leaders stood together announcing a budget deal that won nearly unanimous support in the session's final votes Thursday.

The Republican-controlled General Assembly's 2021 session opened in early January amid wariness about the coronavirus pandemic's impact on state finances and with many conservative lawmakers itching to attack what they regarded as Holcomb's overreach with COVID-19 executive orders that restricted businesses and mandated face masks.

But a big jump in state tax collections and a \$3 billion infusion of federal COVID-19 relief money allowed Republican budget writers to give the sizeable increase to school

funding long sought by Democrats – and legislative leaders largely avoided the divisive "culture war" debates that have been pushed by Republicans in other states this year.

Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray said the Legislature stayed focused on key issues such as protecting businesses from lawsuits over possible coronavirus exposures and helping the state's economy rebound from the pandemic that state health officials say has killed more than 13,000 people.

"You just have to prioritize what's best and that means spending time on the budget, spending time on the way to provide economic opportunity for Hoosiers across the state and provide some competitive advantages for the state of Indiana," Bray said.

Legislative leaders praised the bipartisan cooperation involving members of the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus on a bill aimed at increasing police accountability that was signed by Holcomb on April 1.

That measure grew from a national reckoning over racism and policing

following last year's death of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer. The bill includes provisions for mandatory de-escalation training, bans chokeholds in certain circumstances and a procedure for a state police board to decertify officers who commit misconduct.

But tempers later flared when some Republican House members shouted down and booed Black lawmakers speaking against a bill allowing a rural, mostly white township in St. Joseph County to leave the South Bend Community Schools in a move they called discriminatory and racist. The bill narrowly cleared the House but was never taken up by the Senate.

Republican legislators pushed through a bill giving lawmakers more authority to intervene during emergencies declared by the governor – then voted to override Holcomb's veto after he deemed it not allowed under the state constitution. It could be up to the courts to decide whether the General Assembly can call itself into an emergency session when it isn't meeting during its annual legislative session.

TESTING

From page A1

site comes as a lower number of cases has pushed Wabash County's COVID-19 advisory level from the ISDH from yellow, the second-lowest level, to blue, the lowest level, during their weekly dashboard update on Wednesday.

Though cases have been trending slightly downward for the past few weeks, some worrying signs remain.

Though, now in the blue, Wabash County's positive rating is up slightly. And, on Saturday, April 17, the ISDH reported the 78th confirmed COVID-19 death in Wabash County.

On Friday, the ISDH reported two new local positive COVID-19 cases, bringing Wabash County's total to 3,486, with 14,892 tests. The local seven-day positivity rating for all tests was 2.4 percent. The local seven-day positivity rating for unique individuals was 13.8 percent.

Also on Friday, the ISDH announced that 1,124 additional Hoosiers have been diagnosed with COVID-19 through testing at state and private laboratories. That brings to 712,858 the number of Indiana residents now known to have had the novel coronavirus following

corrections to the previous day's dashboard.

To date, 12,848 Hoosiers are confirmed to have died from COVID-19, an increase of five from the previous day. Another 408 probable deaths have been reported based on clinical diagnoses in patients for whom no positive test is on record.

A total of 3,352,755 unique individuals have been tested in Indiana, up from 3,347,994 on Thursday. A total of 9,588,133 tests, including repeat tests for unique individuals, have been reported to the state Department of Health since Feb. 26, 2020.

To find testing sites around the state, visit www.coronavirus.in.gov and click on the COVID-19 testing information link.

Hoosiers age 16 and older are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. To schedule a vaccine, visit <https://ourshot.in.gov> or call 211 if you do not have access to a computer or require assistance.

Appointments are still available at the mass vaccination site at the former Roosevelt High School in Gary, which is offering the Pfizer vaccination. The Gary clinic is offering vaccinations from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. CDT at 2401 Harrison St., Gary, IN 46407. Free transportation to and

from the site is available through the Gary Public Transportation Corporation (GPTC) and a partnership between IU Health and Lyft. Language interpretation and support for those with disabilities, hearing or vision impairments are also available on-site.

Another FEMA clinic will operate in Gary from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at Marquette Park Pavilion, 1 N. Grand Blvd., Gary.

Additional FEMA clinics will operate from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at the Tolson Center, 1320 Benham Ave., Elkhart; and Center Lake Pavilion, 119 E. Canal St., Warsaw.

A mobile clinic also will operate from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at West Side Leadership Academy, 900 Gerry St., Gary.

As of Friday, a total of 3,938,806 doses have been administered in Indiana. This includes 2,253,551 first doses and 1,685,255 individuals who are fully vaccinated. The fully vaccinated number represents individuals who have received a second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines and those who received the single Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

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